U.S. Embassy Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Security Situation in Kinshasa

Please be advised the following message has been sent to American Citizens registered with the U.S. Embassy in Kinshasa. The U.S. Embassy in Brazzaville has no reports at present of any issues in this Congo. This is for your situational awareness. We will send further updates as they are available.

The U.S. Embassy is located on Boulevard Denis Sassou Nguesso across from the Blanche Gomez Maternity Hospital. The Consular Section is open Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and on Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The Consular section can be reached via e-mail at BrazzavilleACS@state.gov, and our daytime telephone number is (+242) 06 612-2046. For after-hours emergencies, call (+242) 05 526-0673.

U.S. Embassy Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens Armed Engagements around Kinshasa December 30, 2013

The Embassy has received multiple reports of armed engagements and fighting around Kinshasa, including shots being fired at the national television station, N'djili International Airport, and other locations in the city. These reports also state that Ndjili International Airport is currently closed. The Embassy has also received reports that there are police and military checkpoints and barricades in many places as well. The Embassy urges all U.S. citizens in Kinshasa to stay in place and not travel around the city until further notice. The Embassy will distribute additional information as it becomes available. The U.S. Embassy advises U.S. citizens to avoid all public demonstrations and areas where crowds have gathered because even peaceful events can become violent or even deadly.

The U.S. Embassy reminds U.S. citizens in the Democratic Republic of the Congo that events can occur rapidly and without prior warning. All U.S. citizens should ensure that their travel documents, including their U.S. passport and Congolese visas/residency permits, are valid. In addition, U.S. citizens should have their travel documents in their possession at all times in case of an immediate need to travel.

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the <u>U.S. Embassy Kinshasa</u> web site. You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's, Bureau of Consular Affairs <u>website</u> where you can find the current <u>Worldwide Caution</u>, <u>Travel Warning</u>, <u>Travel Alerts</u>, and <u>Country Specific Information</u>. Follow us on <u>Twitter</u> and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on <u>Facebook</u> as well; or you can download our free Smart Traveler App from <u>iTunes</u> or the <u>Android</u> market to have travel information at your fingertips. If you don't have internet access, you may obtain up-to-date information on security conditions by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada, or on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through

Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

If you are going to live in or travel to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, please take the time to tell us about your trip by enrolling in the <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program</u> (STEP). If you enroll, we can keep you up to date with important safety and security announcements. It will also help your friends and family get in touch with you in an emergency. You should remember to keep all of your information in STEP up to date. It is important during enrollment or updating of information to include your current phone number and current email address where you can be reached in case of an emergency.

The <u>U.S. Embassy in Kinshasa</u> is located at 310 Avenue des Aviateurs, tel. +243-081-225-5872 (Do not dial the zero when calling from abroad). The Consular Section of the Embassy may be reached at tel. +243-081-884-6859 or +243-081-884-4609 and is open Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-5:15 p.m. and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For after-hours emergencies, U.S. citizens should call 081-556-0151 and ask to speak with the duty officer.

All U.S. citizens in the Republic of Congo are urged to register online at the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program https://step.state.gov/ (STEP). Registering gives U.S. citizens access to updated information on travel and security within the Congo and makes it easier for the Embassy to contact citizens in case of emergency.

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the website of the <u>U.S.</u>

<u>Embassy in The Republic of the Congo.</u> You can also get global updates at the U.S.

Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs website where you can find the current <u>Worldwide Caution</u>, <u>Travel Warnings</u>, <u>Travel Alerts</u>, and <u>Country Specific Information</u>. Follow us on <u>Twitter</u> and the ACS Nairobi page on <u>Facebook</u> as well, or you can download our free Smart Traveler App, available through <u>iTunes</u> and the <u>Google Play</u>, to have travel information at your fingertips. If you don't have internet access, current information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada, or, for callers from other countries, a

regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

The U.S. Embassy is located on Boulevard Denis Sassou Nguesso across from the Blanche Gomez Maternity Hospital. The Consular Section is open Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and on Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The Consular section can be reached via e-mail at BrazzavilleACS@state.gov, and our daytime telephone number is (+242) 06 612-2046. For after-hours emergencies, call (+242) 05 526-0673.